

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
4994

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/000691

International filing date (day/month/year)

20.01.2005

Priority date (day/month/year)

20.01.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

SINTOKOGIO, LTD.

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/000691

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐

This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language

_____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

☐

a sequence listing

☐

table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

☐

in written format

☐

in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

☐

contained in the international application as filed.

☐

filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐

furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/000691

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	3, 4, 6-31	YES
	Claims	1, 2, 5	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	14-31	YES
	Claims	1-13	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-31	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations:			
<p>Document 1: JP, 50-73148, A</p> <p>Document 2: JP, 9-52151, A</p> <p>Document 3: JP, 4-41047, A</p>			
<p>The subject matters of claims 1 and 5 do not appear to be novel or to involve an inventive step.</p> <p>The guiding means 13 and 14 in the invention described in document 1, the guide rod 3 in the invention described in document 2 and the guide bar 14 in the invention described in document 3 each correspond to the connection rod in the subject matters of the claims.</p> <p>The portion in which the frame main body is attached to the connection rod in the inventions described in documents 1-3 is considered to correspond to the attachment member in the subject matters of the claims, and therefore the subject matters of the claims are considered to be described in documents 1-3.</p> <p>Claim 2 does not appear to be novel or to involve an inventive step in view of document 1 cited in the ISR.</p> <p>Document 1 describes providing a fluid pressure cylinder device 23 for moving of a frame (particularly, see page 3, upper left column, line 18 to upper right column, line 7; Fig. 2), and document 3 describes providing a downward cylinder 13 for moving an upper frame 12 (particularly, see paragraph [0007] and Fig. 1). In view of the functions of the fluid pressure cylinder device 23 for moving of a frame and the downward cylinder 13, it is considered that a force for moving the frame is transmitted to the frame. Accordingly, the subject matter of the claim is considered to be described in documents 1 and 2.</p> <p>Document 3 does not clearly describe a mechanism of moving a frame, but a person skilled in the art could have easily employed the mechanisms described in documents 1 and 2.</p> <p>The subject matters of claims 3 and 4 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.</p> <p>In the inventions described in documents 1-3, whether the frame main body and the attachment member are formed into a united body or a separate body is merely a matter of design variation that could have been selected as necessary by a person skilled in the art, and so the subject matters of the claims are not considered to exhibit a remarkable effect by employing a specific structure.</p> <p>The subject matters of claims 6-8 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.</p> <p>In the inventions described in documents 1-3, whether one frame and the other frame are</p>			

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

made to have the same or different shapes is merely a matter of design variation that could have been selected as necessary by a person skilled in the art, and so the subject matters of the claims are not considered to exhibit a remarkable effect by employing a specific structure.

The subject matter of claim 9 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.

Documents 1-3 describe providing a model platen capable of being held between a pair of frames (see the match plate 27 of document 1, the match plate 10 of document 2 and the pattern plate 30 of document 3).

The subject matters of claims 10 and 11 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.

In the inventions described in documents 1-3, a through-hole inserted in the connection rod is provided, and providing a structure for passage through the through-hole is merely a matter of design variation that could have been set as necessary by a person skilled in the art, and so the subject matters of the claims are not considered to exhibit a remarkable effect by employing a specific structure.

The subject matters of claims 12 and 13 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.

Documents 1-3 describe providing a pair of compression members (see the squeezing devices 28 and 29 of document 1, the upper and lower squeezing plates 6a and 11a of document 2 and the upper and lower squeezing devices 20 and 22 of document 3).

The subject matters of claims 14-31 appear to be novel and to involve an inventive step, since they are neither described nor suggested in documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.

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|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the opinion |
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2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

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4. Additional comments:

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	3, 4, 6-31	YES
	Claims	1, 2, 5	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	14-31	YES
	Claims	1-13	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-31	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: JP, 50-73148, A
Document 2: JP, 9-52151, A
Document 3: JP, 4-41047, A

The subject matters of claims 1 and 5 do not appear to be novel or to involve an inventive step.

The guiding means 13 and 14 in the invention described in document 1, the guide rod 3 in the invention described in document 2 and the guide bar 14 in the invention described in document 3 each correspond to the connection rod in the subject matters of the claims.

The portion in which the frame main body is attached to the connection rod in the inventions described in documents 1-3 is considered to correspond to the attachment member in the subject matters of the claims, and therefore the subject matters of the claims are considered to be described in documents 1-3.

Claim 2 does not appear to be novel or to involve an inventive step in view of document 1 cited in the ISR.

Document 1 describes providing a fluid pressure cylinder device 23 for moving of a frame (particularly, see page 3, upper left column, line 18 to upper right column, line 7; Fig. 2), and document 3 describes providing a downward cylinder 13 for moving an upper frame 12 (particularly, see paragraph [0007] and Fig. 1). In view of the functions of the fluid pressure cylinder device 23 for moving of a frame and the downward cylinder 13, it is considered that a force for moving the frame is transmitted to the frame. Accordingly, the subject matter of the claim is considered to be described in documents 1 and 2.

Document 3 does not clearly describe a mechanism of moving a frame, but a person skilled in the art could have easily employed the mechanisms described in documents 1 and 2.

The subject matters of claims 3 and 4 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.

In the inventions described in documents 1-3, whether the frame main body and the attachment member are formed into a united body or a separate body is merely a matter of design variation that could have been selected as necessary by a person skilled in the art, and so the subject matters of the claims are not considered to exhibit a remarkable effect by employing a specific structure.

The subject matters of claims 6-8 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.

In the inventions described in documents 1-3, whether one frame and the other frame are

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Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
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The subject matter of claim 9 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.

Documents 1-3 describe providing a model platen capable of being held between a pair of frames (see the match plate 27 of document 1, the match plate 10 of document 2 and the pattern plate 30 of document 3).

The subject matters of claims 10 and 11 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.

In the inventions described in documents 1-3, a through-hole inserted in the connection rod is provided, and providing a structure for passage through the through-hole is merely a matter of design variation that could have been set as necessary by a person skilled in the art, and so the subject matters of the claims are not considered to exhibit a remarkable effect by employing a specific structure.

The subject matters of claims 12 and 13 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.

Documents 1-3 describe providing a pair of compression members (see the squeezing devices 28 and 29 of document 1, the upper and lower squeezing plates 6a and 11a of document 2 and the upper and lower squeezing devices 20 and 22 of document 3).

The subject matters of claims 14-31 appear to be novel and to involve an inventive step, since they are neither described nor suggested in documents 1-3 cited in the ISR.